

### *Operational Capacity of Airport Will Be Improved*

*Washington, DC* – Congressman John Hall (NY-19) announced a \$2,857,512 U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) grant today for the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey (PANYNJ) that will be used to rehabilitate taxiway lighting at Stewart International Airport in New Windsor, NY and improve operational capacity.

Taxiway lights are used to outline the edges of the taxiways and facilitate ground traffic during periods of darkness or restricted visibility conditions. They are located in the taxiing paths on runways, ramps and aprons areas. The new lighting, which will give pilots a better field of vision, utilizes energy-saving LED (light emitting diode) lamps.

“This grant award is great news for Stewart Airport and the entire Hudson Valley,” said Hall. “By helping the airport reach its full potential, this grant award will increase Stewart’s ability to be a regional economic engine. Plus, in employing state-of-the-art LED lighting technology for its taxiways, the airport will stay safety conscious while lessening its carbon footprint.”

When Stewart Airport officials realized that the existing runway lighting on the taxiway required work to ensure overall safety, they decided to test LED light fixtures, said Diannae Ehler, general manager of Stewart International Airport. Happy with the results, the airport officials included the LED lights, which typically use less than 25% of fluorescent lighting, in their replacement plans.

The DOT grant is administered by the Federal Aviation Administration.

“We are grateful for Congressman Hall’s continued leadership and support of Stewart International Airport,” said Port Authority Executive Director Chris Ward. “This project is especially important because it utilizes LED lighting, which is good for the environment and further boosts our efforts to improve operations at Stewart.”

## **Hall Announces \$2.8 Million Grant for Stewart Airport Taxiway Lighting**

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In April, Rep. Hall welcomed U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood to Stewart International Airport to discuss the critical importance of Stewart Airport to the nation's transportation needs. Following a tour of the airport, they met with airport officials and local business leaders to discuss the airport's future as the major economic and transportation hub of the Hudson Valley. Topics discussed included economic development of the area surrounding the airport, attracting international charter flights, increasing cargo flights, and constructing a link to the Metro-North Railroad Port Jervis Line.

Hall, who serves on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Aviation, has made increasing access and supporting smart growth at Stewart Airport a top priority.